

Appl. No. 10/796,676
Amdt. dated April 21, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 30, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pallet having a top and a bottom comprising
 - (a) four longitudinal top stringers,
 - (b) three transverse ribs, and
 - (c) four longitudinal bottom stringers,
 - (d) two of the longitudinal top and two of the longitudinal bottom stringers being located opposite each other at the ends of the transverse ribs, the other of the two longitudinal top and the two longitudinal bottom stringers being located opposite each other on the ribs adjacent to the midpoint between the ends of the ribs, the spacing between the each end stringers and its adjacent stringer adjacent the midpoint stringers in the same plane being greater than the spacing between the [midpoint] stringers adjacent the midpoint in the same plane and defining aligned and co-extensive top and bottom openings, the longitudinal top and the longitudinal bottom stringers and the transverse ribs all having substantially the same length whereby the

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pallet has the same longitudinal and transverse length [is symmetrical
in all directions] and the top and bottom are identical.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 1 wherein the longitudinal top and longitudinal bottom stringers and the transverse ribs are rectangular in cross section to provide widths and edges, and the widths of the top and bottom stringers and the transverse ribs are substantially the same.

5. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 4 wherein the widths of the longitudinal top and bottom stringers and the transverse ribs are greater than the thicknesses of the edges of said stringers and ribs.

6. (Previously Presented) The pallet of claim 5 wherein the stringers are positioned on the ribs such that the widths of the stringers are positioned on the edges of the ribs.

7. (Previously Presented) A rolled film and pallet combination comprising
(a) a pallet comprising four longitudinal top stringers, three transverse ribs, and four longitudinal bottom stringers, two of the longitudinal top and two of the longitudinal bottom stringers being located opposite each other at the ends of the transverse ribs, the other of the two longitudinal top and the two longitudinal bottom stringers being located

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opposite each other on the ribs intermediate the ends of the ribs to define four sets of aligned top and bottom stringers with aligned top and bottom spaces between the end stringers and the intermediate stringers, and

(b) four rolls of plastic film, each wound on a core with the ends of the cores extending beyond the ends of the rolls a distance less than one half the distance between the outer surfaces of each pair of the top and bottom stringers, the rolls being positioned on the top surface of the top stringers with the ends of the cores being located in the spaces between the end stringers and the adjacent intermediate stringers.

8. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 7 including paperboard containers for each of said rolls, each paperboard container having flat sides and a flat top and a flat bottom, the tops and bottoms having apertures therein to accommodate the core ends of the rolls contained in the containers.

9. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 8 wherein the tops and bottoms of the containers are defined by end flaps and side flaps which are folded inwardly and are sized to leave a gap at the centers of the tops and bottoms to accommodate said core ends.

10. (Previously Presented) A plurality of the rolled film and pallet combinations of Claim 7 stacked one atop another.

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11. (Previously Presented) A plurality of the rolled film and pallet combinations and paperboard containers of Claim 8 stacked one atop another.
12. (Currently Amended) The combination of Claim 7 wherein the spaces between the end stringers and their adjacent [the] intermediate stringer [stringers are] in the same plane are greater than the spaces between the said intermediate stringers in the same plane.
13. (Previously Presented) The combination of Claim 7 wherein the top stringers, the transverse ribs and the bottom stringers all have substantially the same length whereby the pallet is symmetrical.

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